

[4 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The wholesale price of sugar in the four metropolitan cities of the country viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai which ranged between Rs. 1655-1980 per quintal in October, 2006, came down to Rs. 1425-1615 per quintal in March, 2007 and further to Rs. 1360-1600 per quintal in April, 2007.

(c) The Central Government has not fixed any price of sugar meant for export.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Making sugar industry free from bondages

†3243. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plan to free sugar industry from all bondages;

(b) whether Government intend to do away with the necessity of selling sugar to Government at lower rates for ration shops;

(c) if so, Government's policy on providing sugar to BPL people at lower rate;

(d) whether Government are going to do away with the system of "Ganna Kshetra Aarakshan" and "SAP"; and

(e) if so, the arrangements being made by Government to safeguard in the interests of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Government takes appropriate measures, as and when needed, to bring necessary changes in sugar policy.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (e) No decisions to do away selling sugar to BPL families at lower rate or to do away with the system of "Ganna Kshetra Aarakshan" and "SAP" have been taken by the Central Government.

Supply of foodgrains to Gujarat

3244. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government allocate grains to States considering BPL cards as informed by the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government agree to allocate 35 kgs of foodgrains per card considering 27 lakh cards as indicated by the State Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are supplying only 17 kgs of foodgrains per card to Gujarat; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Central Government makes an allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per BPL and AAY family per month on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/UTs or the number of house-holds on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less. Thus, all the States, including Gujarat, are being allocated foodgrains under the TPDS in keeping with the foregoing criterion. The details of the number of families, number of ration cards issued and the allocation being made in respect of the BPL and AAY categories, for the State of Gujarat, are as under: